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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania

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DATE DISTR. 14 Feb. 1951

SUBJECT Guided Missile Launching
Sites in Rumania

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1. On the plateau behind the Crucea Dreilor (Heroes Cross), on the summit of Mount Caraiman in the Bucegi mountain range, launching platforms and tracks for guided missiles are being constructed.
2. Mount Caraiman is located above the small town of Busteni situated in the high valley of the Prahova district, on the State highway from Bucharest to Brasov. The summit of Mount Caraiman, 2,530 meters above sea level, is shown on all the geographical maps and is part of the group of the Bucegi range of the Southern Carpathians.
3. The plateau concerned is located between the peaks of Mounts Caraiman and Omul (altitude: 2,544 meters). From the communities of Busteni, Poiana Tapului, Azuga, Predeal, and Sinaia, the plateau is not visible as it is hidden by the neighboring peaks.
4. The plateau has been well chosen for the construction of the launching platforms. Caraiman is inaccessible except by very narrow and dangerous mountain paths starting from Busteni and running through the valleys of Iepelor, Alba, and Cerfului. The only access is by mountain paths or by a telepher span originally constructed for the use of the Schiel paper factory of Busteni. One of the telepher span stations is at Casa Schiel on Mount Iepii Mari about six hundred meters in an air line from the summit of Mount Caraiman. The material is brought to this station by trucks or by railroad to the Busteni station on the regular Bucharest-Brasov railroad line. From there the trucks come to carry it over a road within the factory itself leading to the telepher span station.

The material carried on the telepher span is as follows: electric generators, compressors, iron, cement, lime, sand, bricks, rubble, rails, small carts, equipment for Decauville railways, et cetera, is unloaded at the Casa Schiel. From there it goes over a special road about one kilometer long, just built, which winds along the edge of the mountain to the above-indicated plateau.

Construction is managed by Sovromconstructie, and the manpower used is military except for some civilian specialists.

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7. Three launching sites are being constructed. [redacted] these launching sites are directed as follows:

a. Toward Yugoslavia, [redacted]

b. South, [redacted]

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8. Tourists have been forbidden access to the Bucegi mountains for the last 14 months and only the personnel working there can go to the top and then only on the telepher span. The personnel have been furnished with special identity cards which must be shown upon request by the Militia.

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